

## **ABSTRACT**

**CREATIVE PROJECT:** Four Art Songs by Franz Liszt: A Comparative Analysis

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Franz Liszt composed more than eighty songs in five different languages. Most of his songs are settings of German poems, and his French pieces are among the significant works of his time. This paper provides biographical information on Franz Liszt through his Virtuoso and Weimar years, and an examination of Liszt's settings of four works regarding melody, harmony, language text setting, texture, rhythm, and structure. The four pieces that are examined include "S'il est un charmant gazon," "Comment disaient-ils," "Mignon's Lied," and "Freudvoll und Leidvoll." All these pieces were revised within a fifteen-year time frame. The two or three versions of the songs mentioned above are compared to better discuss Liszt's stylistic development. Also, this creative project aims to aid singers in choosing Liszt's songs as repertoire and performing them, as his music is not widely accepted or performed by vocalists.